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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
Fumihisa KITAWAKI, et al. : Confirmation Number: 3473
Serial No.: 10/676,263 : Group Art Unit: 1641
Filed: October 02, 2003 : Examiner:
For: ANALYTE SAMPLING ELEMENT, ANALYTE TREATMENT DEVICE AND
ANALYTE TREATMENT METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

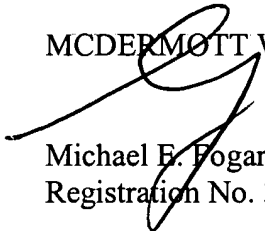
Each English language reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action is attached for the Examiner's information.

10/676,263

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

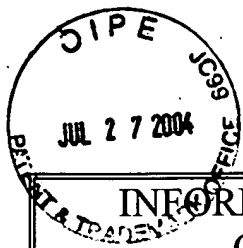
Respectfully submitted,

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SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION IN AN
APPLICATION

(PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
43888-278SERIAL NO.
10/676,263APPLICANT
Fumihisa KITAWAKI, et al.FILING DATE
October 02, 2003GROUP
1641

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US 5,242,803	09-07-1993	Burtis et al.	
		US 4,161,508	07-17-1979	Janchen	
		US 4,670,003	06-02-1987	Moroz	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number 4-Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
		EP 0-581-413 A2	02-02-1994	BECKMAN INSTRUMENTS, INC.		English	
		EP 0-560-410 A2	09-15-1993	UNILEVER N.V.		English	

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER

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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.